

LISTING OF CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows.

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application. The text of withdrawn Claim 104 has been submitted in order for the instant applicable to be in allowable form.

No Admission. The claims presented below are labeled pursuant to the requirements of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for convenience in examination. The cancellation of a claim or reference to a claim as “currently amended” is not an admission that the claim was altered for any reason related to patentability. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the canceled claims in this or any other appropriate patent application.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-68. (Cancelled).

Claims 69-101. (Cancelled).

102. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a subject for a penetrating eye trauma, comprising administering a connexin 43-downregulating amount of a connexin 43 antisense compound to the eye of said subject.

103. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the eye trauma is chemical trauma.

104. (Withdrawn) A method of claim 102 wherein the eye trauma is mechanical trauma.

105. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the eye trauma results in corneal epithelial damage.

106. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the connexin 43 antisense compound is administered to a subject having an amniotic membrane graft.

107. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is selected from the group consisting of antisense, oligonucleotides and antisense polynucleotides.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 wherein said antisense compound comprises a nucleobase sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1-3.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 wherein said antisense compound is targeted to at least about 8 nucleobases of a nucleic acid molecule encoding a connexin having a nucleobase sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:12.

110. (Previously Presented) The method of any of claims 102-105 or 106 wherein said antisense compound is an antisense oligonucleotide between 15 and 35 nucleobases in length.

111. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 110 wherein said antisense compound is an antisense oligonucleotide comprising naturally occurring nucleobases and an unmodified internucleoside linkage.

112. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 110 wherein said antisense compound is antisense oligonucleotide comprising at least one modified internucleoside linkage, at least one modified sugar moiety, and/or at least one modified nucleobase.

113. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112 wherein said modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

114. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is administered by topical administration.

115. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is administered by local administration.

116. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is administered by intraocular injection.

117. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 110 wherein the antisense compound is formulated with a pluronic gel.

118. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 117 wherein the pluronic gel comprises pluronic F127.

119. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 110 wherein the antisense compound is administered once.

120. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 110 wherein the antisense compound is administered more than once.

121. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the subject is a human.